

Message Text

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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 8152

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MILI, KE

SUBJ: POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE DEFENSE

LIAISON OFFICE AND DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE IN NAIROBI

1. DCM LINDSTROM, ACCOMPAINED BY DLO ANDERSON, CALLED ON DEFENSE MINISTRY PERMSEC KIEREINI AUGUST 3 TO DELIVER LETTER REQUESTING VIEWS OF GOK RE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING SECURITY ASSISTANCE LIAISON OFFICE AND DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE IN THIS EMBASSY. KIEREINI, AFTER READING LETTER, READILY SAID THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM IN ESTABLISHING PROPOSED SECURITY ASSISTANCE LIAISON OFFICE WHICH HE ASSUMED WOULD BE IN EXISTENCE ONLY AS LONG AS F-5 OR SOME OTHER U.S. SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN BEING. DCM CONFIRMED THAT THIS WAS ALSO HIS UNDERSTANDING.

2. RE POSSIBLE DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE, KIEREINI SAID PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE TO BE CLEARED WITHIN GOK BEFORE DEFINITIVE REPLY COULD BE GIVEN. IF ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH AND OFFICE IS APPROVED, KIEREINI SAID U.S. ATTACHE WOULD BE TREATED "LIKE OTHER ATTACHES" WITH RESPECT TO TRAVEL AND INSOFAR AS ACCESS TO KENYA DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS AND ARMED FORCES OFFICERS IS CONCERNED. KIEREINI SAID ACCESS TO OFFICIALS AND OFFICERS WOULD APPROXIMATE THAT PROVIDED TO DLO ANDERSON DURING THIS TDY HERE, I.E.,
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INITIAL CONTACT WOULD BE WITH KIEREINI, HIS CIVILIAN

DEPUTY GITONGA, OR WITH CHEIF OF STAFF BRIG. KAKENYI.
CONTACTS WITH OTHER OFFICERS WOULD HAVE TO BE APPROVED
AND ARRANGED BY ONE OF THESE THREE.

3. DURING AUGUST 3 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR, FORMIN
WAIYAKI INDICATED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD RAISED
WITH HIM IN WASHINGTON THE QUESTION OF ASSIGNING A
DEFENSE ATTACHE TO NAIROBI. WAIYAKI SAID HE HAD "PUSHED"
THIS MATTER UPON RETURNING TO KENYA, AND HAD BEEN TOLD
THAT AN ATTACHE WAS ALREADY IN NAIROBI. AMBASSADOR
EXPLAINED THAT A TEMPORARY DEFENSE LIAISON OFFICER HAD
COME FOR PERIOD OF 15 DAYS, SUBJECT TO FURTHER 15-DAY
EXTENSION, BUT THAT U.S. INTERESTED IN PRESENCE IN
NAIROBI FOR TWO TYPES OF MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES.

4. AMBASSADOR DESCRIBED FUNCTIONS OF PROPOSED SECURITY
ASSISTANCE LIAISON OFFICE, WHICH U.S. HOPED TO ESTABLISH
BY OCTOBER 1976 IF APPROVED BY GOK AND IF LETTER OF
OFFER FOR F-5E/F SQUADRON SIGNED BY AUGUST 31. WAIYAKI
READILY SAW NEED FOR SUCH PERSONNEL TO ASSIST WITH
TECHNICAL AND PROGRAMING ASPECTS OF AIRCRAFT SALE.

5. TURNING TO PROPOSED DEFENSE ATTACHE, AMBASSADOR SAID
THIS OFFICER WOULD NOT HAVE SECUIRUTY ASSISTANCE RESPONSI-
BILITIES, BUT WOULD FOCUS ON REPORTING ON MATTERS OF
INTEREST TO U.S. DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT. TEMPORARY
LIAISON OFFICER WHO HAD RECENTLY ARRIVED IN KENYA HAD
CALLED ON PERMSEC KIEREINI OF MOD AND VARIOUS KENYA
ARMED FORCES OFFICERS SINCE HIS ARRIVAL IN NAIROBI.
EMBASSY WOULD RAISE QUESTION TODAY RE POSSIBLE
PERMANENT PRESENCE OF DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE WITH MOD.
IN THIS CONNECTION, WE WERE SEEKING CLARIFICATION OF
WHAT CONTACTS AND ATTACHE WOULD BE PERMITTED, WHETHER HE
COULD FUNCTION AS HIS SUPERIORS WISHED HIM TO.

6. AFTER CLARIFYING THAT ATTACHE WOULD BE (IN WAIYAKI'S
WORDS) A "MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OFFICER," WAIYAKI ASKED
WHETHER THE OFFICER WOULD REPORT ON KENYA OR ON THE WHOLE
REGION. AMBASSADOR SAID HIS INTERESTS WOULD ENCOMPASS
ENTIRE REGION. WAIYAKI WONDERED WHETHER THIS WOULD
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EXPOSE KENYA TO CHARGE THAT U.S. USING KENYA AS A "BASE"
AGAINST OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES. AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED
THAT DUTIES OF ATTACHE WOULD BE REPORTING, NOT ACTION
PROGRAMS.

7. WAIYAKI SAID IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO CLEAR ATTACHE
PROPOSAL WITH PRESIDENT KENYATTA, SINCE THE PRESIDENT
WAS VERY SENSITIVE TO QUESTION OF DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN

FOREIGNERS AND MEMBERS OF THE KENYA FORCES. WAIYAKI SUGGESTED THAT EMBASSY PRESENT PROPOSAL IN LETTER TO MOD, WITH COPY TO HIMSELF, SO THAT PRESIDENT'S VIEWS COULD BE OBTAINED. (COPY OF LETTER TO KIEREINI WAS SUBSEQUENTLY SENT TO WAIYAKI.)

8. WAIYAKI ADDED AS AN AFTERTHOUGHT THAT ONLY OTHER COUNTRIES MAINTAINING MILITARY ATTACHES IN NAIROBI WERE BRITAIN AND ETHIOPIA, BOTH OF WHICH HAD DEFENSE AGREEMENTS WITH KENYA. HE WONDERED IF ARRIVAL OF U.S. ATTACHE WOULD LEAD TO SPECULATION THAT KENYA HAD CONCLUDED SUCH AN AGREEMENT WITH U.S. ON THE OTHER HAND, WAIYAKI ASSUMED (AND AMBASSADOR CONFIRMED) THAT AN ATTACHE COULD SHARE INFORMATION WITH KENYA, AS WELL AS COLLECT IT FOR HIS SUPERIORS IN WASHINGTON. CONVERSATION CONCLUDED WITH WAIYAKI'S REITERATION THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO RAISE ATTACHE QUESTION WITH PRESIDENT KENYATTA. AMBASSADOR OFFERED TO SPEAK TO THE PRESIDENT IF IT SEEMED ADVISABLE.
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